



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, December 18, 2007

## Electricity

### Update: Over 105,000 Customers Remain Without Power Throughout Central Plains

Utilities across the Central Plains are reporting outage numbers significantly lower than a week ago when the severe ice storm began affecting the region December 9. As of 3:00 PM EST today, 105,323 customers remained without electricity.

Central Plains Customer Power Outages			
December 9-18, 2007			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
AEP/Public Service Co. of Oklahoma	Oklahoma	254,016	24,845
Oklahoma Gas & Electric	Oklahoma	302,275	51,224
OK Association of Electric Cooperatives	Oklahoma	73,420	5,712
Municipals	Oklahoma	15,000	3,900
AmerenUE	Missouri	44,441	828
Aquila	Missouri	67,506	136
Statewide Cooperatives	Missouri	47,000	1,315
Kansas City Power & Light	Kansas/Missouri	68,208	0
Empire District Electric	Kansas	58,600	900
Kansas Electric Cooperatives	Kansas	50,442	11,608
Westar	Kansas	84,123	1,970
Alliant	Iowa	43,000	47
MidAmerican	Iowa	23,576	2,585
Ameren	Illinois	17,198	251
Alliant	Wisconsin	13,042	2
<b>TOTAL *</b>		<b>1,161,874</b>	<b>105,323</b>

\*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources: <http://www.psoklahoma.com/news/outages/viewstorm.asp?stormID=727>

<http://alliantenergy.com/docs/groups/public/documents/pub/p013332.hcsp>

<http://www.midamericanenergy.com/storm/OutageWatch/MECOutageWatch.aspx>

<https://www-11.westarenergy.com/outagemaps/outagetable.asp>

<http://www.kec.org/pages/Outage%20Report/update.htm>

<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/SitReps/Situation%20Reports.htm>

[http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC\\_MissouriOutageInformation.asp](http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_MissouriOutageInformation.asp)

<http://www.aquila.com/eoc/mainoutage.do>

<https://www.empiredistrict.com/>

<http://www.amec.org/IceStormInfoCtr/AffectedSystems.html>

[http://www.ok.gov/OEM/Emergencies & Disasters/2007/Winter Weather Event 20071209 - Master/](http://www.ok.gov/OEM/Emergencies%20&%20Disasters/2007/Winter%20Weather%20Event%2020071209-Master/)

<http://www.oge.com/systemwatch/>

[http://oaec.coop/Latest\\_News.php](http://oaec.coop/Latest_News.php)

### Update: 46,000 Mid-Atlantic Customers Remain Without Power

Road and utility crews are continuing to work to recover from the ice and wind storm that knocked out power to nearly 350,000 thousand of customers. Major progress has been made throughout Maryland and Virginia. As of 3:00 PM EST today, 46,298 customers remained without electricity, with Pennsylvania Power & Light and MetEd reporting the most outages, 14,624 and 23,000 respectively.

[http://www1.pplweb.com/Maps/emergency\\_main.html](http://www1.pplweb.com/Maps/emergency_main.html)

[http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state\\_code=PA](http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages/outages.do?state_code=PA)

### **Update: TVA's 602 MW Paradise Coal-fired Unit 2 in Tennessee Returns to Service December 17**

The unit was returned to service after repair work on an emergency bus was completed.  
Reuters, 17:35 December 17, 2007

### **Update: OPG's 490 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 2 in Ontario Returns to Service December 18**

The unit began to exit an outage early December 18.  
Reuters, 09:47 December 18, 2007

### **Dominion's 871 MW Millstone Nuke Unit 2 in Connecticut at Full Power December 18**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 58 percent on December 17.  
Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2007/>

### **Duke's 846 MW Oconee Nuke Unit 3 in South Carolina Ramped Up to 18 Percent December 18**

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the unit was operating at 0 percent on December 17.  
Information derived from NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2007/>

### **FutureGen Selects Illinois to Locate its New Coal-Gasification Project**

FutureGen recently announced that the public-private partnership has selected Mattoon, Illinois for the site of its new \$1.8 billion experimental coal-gasification plant. Although the plant will continue to produce carbon dioxide which will be liquefied and pumped deep in the earth where it is believed it will be retained in sandstone. The plant is scheduled to become operational in 2012.  
[http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-futuregen\\_webdec19.0.7717400.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-futuregen_webdec19.0.7717400.story)

### **Update: Exelon to Apply With NRC for New Nuclear Plant in Texas**

Exelon announced plans to apply for a license to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a new nuclear plant to be located in Victoria County in southeast Texas. The company expects to submit the Victoria County license application in September 2008.  
Reuters, 11:54 December 18, 2007

### **Independent Electricity System Operator of Ontario Says Electricity Outlook is Positive**

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) of Ontario said over the next 18 months, more than 4,600 MW of new capacity is scheduled to come into service creating a positive outlook for Ontario's electricity system. The new supply is comprised of 3,000 MW of gas-fired generation, 800 MW of nuclear generation, 100 MW of hydroelectric generation and 700 MW of wind generation.  
<http://www.oilweek.com/news.asp?ID=13259>  
[http://www.canadianbusiness.com/markets/cnw/article.jsp?content=20071217\\_142508\\_3\\_cnw\\_cnw](http://www.canadianbusiness.com/markets/cnw/article.jsp?content=20071217_142508_3_cnw_cnw)

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Reformer Unit Back in Service at ExxonMobil's 348,500 b/d Beaumont Refinery in Texas December 18**

According to a company representative, the reformer unit damaged in a fire last week at the Beaumont refinery has returned to normal operation.  
Bloomberg News, 18:04 December 18, 2007

### **Chestnut Ridge Storage Applies to FERC to Approve its 25 Bcf Junction Natural Gas Storage Facility in Pennsylvania December 17**

Chestnut Ridge Storage applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission December 17 to approve plans for its 25 Bcf Junction Natural Gas Storage facility. Pending approval, the facility construction is expected to begin in 2008 and the facility is expected to be in service early in 2009.

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6664237.xml?p=Natural%20Gas/News&sub=Natural%20Gas>

## Other News

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### **With U.S House and Senate Approval complete, President Bush to Sign Major Energy Bill December 19**

The U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 6, the energy bill approved last week by the Senate. The bill will be signed into law by President Bush on Wednesday, December 19. The major elements of the bill include: higher vehicle economy standards, increased production levels of renewable fuels, and increases in energy efficiency in buildings and appliances.

Some specifics:

- Fuel Economy
  - Increases Corporate Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards to 35 mpg in 2030
  - Separate standards for passenger cars and light trucks
    - Annual increases beginning in model year 2011
    - Beginning in 2021, annual increases to be at “maximum feasible rate”
    - Extends flexible fuel vehicle credit for manufacturers
- Renewable fuel provisions
  - Expands the mandate for grown biofuels in 2022 from the current level of 6.5 billion gallons to 36 billion gallons.
  - Establishes a cap on ethanol produced from corn at 15 billion gallons
  - Requires production of remaining biofuels to be made from non-food sources including such cellulosic sources as switch grass, wood chips, or farm waste
- Energy Efficiency
  - Increases efficiency of buildings, homes, appliances, and lighting
  - Phases out of incandescent light bulbs to reduce energy use from that source by 60 percent by 2020
- Research and Development
  - Establishes new incentives for development of alternative such other energy sources as wind, geothermal, and solar
  - Provides funding for research into carbon capture and sequestration

[http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200712181400DOWJONESDJONLINE000579\\_FORTUNE5.htm](http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200712181400DOWJONESDJONLINE000579_FORTUNE5.htm)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/politicsNews/idUSWBT00808420071218?sp=true>

Reuters, 13:58 December 18, 2007

Reuters, 13:55 December 18, 2007

### **Congress Expands Nuclear Loan Guarantee Program December 17**

Congress passed legislation to increase funding for a loan guarantee program which will provide up to 80 percent of nuclear reactor construction costs. The \$20.5 billion legislation includes \$10 billion for renewable energy and energy efficiency and \$8 billion for clean-coal technology.

<http://www.bostonherald.com/news/national/politics/general/view.bg?articleid=1051290>

### **Low Water Levels Cause Coal Shipments through Great Lakes to Drop in December**

Low water levels on the Great Lakes have impacted the ability of vessels to move coal in December. Typical loads per vessel averaged only 61,951 short tons in December, if water levels were normal, full loads would be 70,000 short tons or more according to a spokesman for the Lake Carriers' Association.

<http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6658997.xml?p=Coal/News&sub=Coal>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 18, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	90.91	90.50	62.45
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	7.16	7.12	6.62

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### **Stillman Compressor Station in Texas Lost Compressor # 3 and VRU for Several Hours December 17**

<http://www2.tceq.state.tx.us/ee/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=getDetails&target=101422>

### **Leaking Pipeline Spills 102 Barrels of Oil & Water at ConocoPhillips Kuparak Field in North Slope, Alaska December 16**

<http://www.adn.com/front/story/9525091p-9435885c.html>

### **Update: FERC Approves Guardian's Proposal for 537,200 dth/d Expansion of Natural Gas Pipeline in Wisconsin and Illinois December 14**

<http://www.wdtimes.com/articles/2007/12/17/news/news2.txt>

### **West Texas LPG Gains Financing for Proposed Expansion of NGL Pipeline in Texas December 18—to Add 39 miles of 12-inch Pipeline, Boost Throughput by More than 50,000 b/d**

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/071218/aqtu035a.html?v=2>

### **Governors of Georgia, Alabama and Florida Meet to Seek Agreement on Water Sharing Problem for the Drought Stricken States – Concerns Voiced about Supplies for Power Plants and Drinking Water – December 17**

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=9414170](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=9414170)

### **ASTM International Subcommittee Sets Biodiesel Blendstock Specifications**

Ethanol & Biodiesel News, December 18, 2007

### **Canada's National Energy Board and Oil & Gas Commission of British Columbia Sign a Memorandum of Understanding to Improve Pipeline Safety and Regulatory Efficiency**

<http://www.cnw.ca/fr/releases/archive/December2007/17/c3829.html>

### **Syria and Iraq to Restart Iraq-Syria Oil Pipeline, Official SANA News Says December 17**

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-12/18/content\\_7269359.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-12/18/content_7269359.htm)

## Links

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

### ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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